

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Jeff L. Ellsworth
Serial No. : 10/680,673
Filed : October 7, 2003
For : METHODS FOR ADMINISTERING FGF18
Confirmation No. : 5506

Examiner : Romeo, David S.
Art Unit : 1615
Docket No. : 02-21
Date : November 6, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

The Restriction Requirement mailed October 6, 2006, has been received and reviewed.

The Office Action sets forth a restriction requirement under 35 USC §121.

Applicants were requested to elect one of two designated groups as briefly noted below:

I. Claims 1-8, drawn to a composition comprising FGF-18 and hyaluronic acid, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

II. Claims 9-26, drawn to a method of increasing chondrocyte proliferation with a composition comprising fgf-18 and hyaluronic acid, classified in class 514, subclass 12.

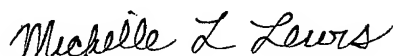
In response to the Requirement for Restriction Election, Applicants elect without traverse Group II, claims 9-26, drawn to methods of increasing chondrocyte proliferation, classified in class 514, subclass 12.

The Office Action sets forth a further species restriction requirement. Applicants were requested to elect one of low molecular weight hyaluronans, high molecular weight hyaluronans, sulfated proteoglycans, B-cyclodextrin tetradecasulphate, hydroxyapatite, chitosans, and methylcellulose. Also, for the species that applicants choose to elect, applicants are required to further elect such species in the form of a solution, a gel, a paste, or a putty. In response to the Requirement for Species Election, Applicants elect high molecular weight hyaluronans in a solution.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, in the event that a fee is due, please charge any fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 26-0290.

Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims under examination are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of the above-identified patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6627.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle L. Lewis".

Michelle L. Lewis
Registration No. 36,352

Customer No. 10117
ZymoGenetics, Inc.